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March 3, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire
Chief Clerk & Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Petition of Duke Energy Progress, Incorporated for an Accounting Order to Defer Incremental Storm Damage Expenses from Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael, and to Continue Previously Authorized Storm Deferrals
Docket No. 2019-26-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

By this letter, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") hereby notifies the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") that ORS has reviewed and has no objection to the filing submitted by Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("Company") requesting the Commission for an accounting order to defer the incremental storm damage expenses from Hurricane Dorian ("Petition").

Overview of Company's Request

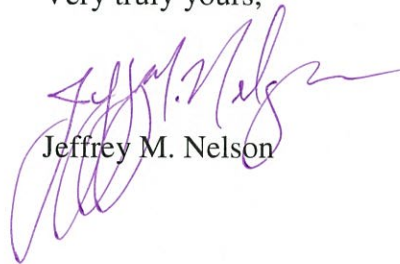
As a result of Hurricane Dorian, the Company incurred approximately \$22 million in incremental operating and maintenance expense to repair and restore its South Carolina system. The Company is requesting the Commission issue an accounting order to defer these expenses consistent with the Commission's prior accounting order on storm expenses, Order No. 2019-126, in this docket. The Company requests this deferral so that the Company may explore alternative options for recovery of the deferred balances. If the Company is unable to secure a suitable, alternative recovery mechanism that results in customer savings, then the Company will seek recovery through more traditional mechanisms in a future rate case for all deferred costs described in this Petition.

ORS Recommendation

The Company's request will not involve a change to any retail rates or prices at this time or require any change in any Commission rule, regulation, or policy. ORS's position is predicated on the basis that the issuance of an accounting order in this matter will not preclude the ORS, Commission, or any other party, from addressing the reasonableness of these costs including the carrying costs in a subsequent general rate case or other proceeding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey M. Nelson

cc: All Parties of Record (via e-mail)
Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via e-mail)